

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

BOYERTOWN MUSEUM OF HISTORIC VEHICLES

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles as it celebrates 50 years of educating countless visitors about the important role Berks County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania played in the development of America's automobile industry.

Before Detroit became the automobile capital of the world, Berks County was at the forefront of America's transportation revolution. Horse-drawn carriages yielded to electric and gasoline-powered vehicles test driven on the steep slopes and hairpin curves leading to the summit of Mt. Penn in Reading and other roads in the region.

Thanks to the outstanding dedication and hard work of its staff and volunteers, as well as the generosity of its members and supporters, the Museum chronicles the groundbreaking contributions of automobile manufacturing pioneers such as Charles Duryea, who along with his brother, Frank, is credited with designing and producing the country's first hill-climbing, gasoline-powered vehicle and the first commercially-produced automobile in 1900.

Founded by Paul R. Hafer and his wife, Ermine, in 1965, the Museum is home to fascinating exhibits and dozens of automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles that were manufactured in Pennsylvania. The community will help the Museum kick off a year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary on Saturday, January 17th during a Golden Gala.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles as it celebrates this memorable milestone and continues telling the uniquely American story of how hard work, ingenuity and craftsmanship helped Berks County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania revolutionize how all of us travel.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF CONSTANCE KEND EISENSTAT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman and cherished constituent, Constance Eisenstat, who died on December 23, 2014, at the age of 83. Born in New York City to Lee and Cecile (Meyer) Kend, Connie spent the first half of her life as a New Yorker, and then as a Californian in the Bay Area.

Connie made the world better with all she did and was. A unique, tasteful, funny, smart,

intuitive, wise and fully decent woman, she consistently made herself available to help those who needed her, whether it was wardrobe guidance, new shopping opportunities, or exclusives on upcoming sales! Her notable travel and fine dining tips, favorite recipes, reviews of movies, art, and theatre were offered free of charge, and everyone trusted Connie's judgment and good taste. But most importantly, Connie was truly at her best when coaching others through their illnesses, their difficult personal times or their life's challenges. Connie was a courageous woman. She inspired others through her inner strength, fighting off her own illnesses countless times, yet never allowing them to get her down.

Inspired by a program established at Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York, Connie and a friend launched the Patient to Patient Program at Stanford Hospital. They and their group of carefully trained volunteers paid visits to patients who had undergone breast cancer surgeries. Introducing themselves as breast cancer survivors, they offered information and support services to hospital patients with gentleness and sensitivity. When the Community Breast Health Project (CBHP) was created in 1993, Connie once again offered her services to help launch this valued community non-profit organization. For many years she served as a committed volunteer and fundraiser, and together with a group of like-minded individuals, she sustained and strengthened this premier community organization (now Bay Area Cancer Connections) that supports people touched by breast and ovarian cancer with comprehensive, personalized services in an atmosphere of warmth and compassion.

Connie was a devoted wife, mother, grand mom, friend, and community leader. Her loyalty, style, energy, creativity, humor, determination and bravery are all hallmarks of who she was and made her unforgettable. She was an entrepreneur before the word was popularized . . . the owner of a tennis shop, Connie's Racquet, and a food business, Ultomato. She also brought her enduring sense of beauty to the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University as a member of the Board.

Connie leaves her beloved husband of 55 years, Albert (Pepsi), her children Melissa (Jonathan) and Michael (Susanne) and her beloved four grandsons, Mitch, Johnny, Ben and Tommy. Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life of Connie Eisenstat. In the words of Vincent Van Gogh: "Close friends are truly life's treasures. Sometimes they know us better than we know ourselves."

With gentle honesty, they are there to guide and support us, to share our laughter and our tears.

Their presence reminds us that we are never really alone".

This beloved and unique woman strengthened her family, her friends, her community and her country. May our tribute to her be a source of pride and comfort to the entire Eisenstat family.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND RETIREMENT OF WILLIAM L. BERG

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and retirement of William L. Berg. Mr. Berg, a lifelong resident of Wisconsin, is retiring from his position as president and CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative. During his career, Mr. Berg oversaw a series of major transitions in the electric utility industry. He handled these transitions with confidence, leaving Dairyland better for his service. Mr. Berg's tenure at Dairyland was the longest of any CEO of a generation and transmission cooperative in the United States.

Mr. Berg graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Electrical Engineering in 1971 and 1972, respectively. From 1972 to 1974, Mr. Berg was employed by the Wisconsin Electric Power Company as an engineer. Bill was hired by Dairyland in 1974, and assumed the duties of president and chief executive officer in 1990, just as the electric restructuring movement began. His leadership helped to guide Dairyland through the rapid changes associated with this period of restructuring and deregulation.

Mr. Berg spent his career championing the values underpinning the cooperative business model. He believed that the strength of a cooperative comes from its members. His primary concern was always the interests of the cooperative's members, and by remaining focused on their fundamental importance, he was able to achieve great success as the leader of the cooperative.

Mr. Berg is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Wisconsin and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He spends his time serving on a variety of boards and committees, including the Board of Advisors of Viterbo University and its Executive Committee. He also serves on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee of the Surface Transportation Board of the U.S. Department of Transportation and is a member of National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Environmental Task Force. Mr. Berg is a past-president and current board member of the National Renewables Cooperative Organization. He is also a past-president of the National G&T Managers' Association and has served on the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute.

Bill and his wife, Cindi, live in La Crosse where they plan to remain active in their church and in other community activities after Bill's retirement. Together they have two children, Michael and Sarah, as well as five grandchildren. Bill and Cindi are keen travelers, enjoying hiking experiences across the continents. I wish Bill and Cindi all the best in the years to come.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 17–19.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on #17, yes on #18, no on #19.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN PITSTICK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Pitstick who is retiring as the Director of Planning and Development from the City of North Richland Hills.

As Director, Mr. Pitstick was responsible for all of the city's development activities, including planning and zoning as well as direction of building inspections. These responsibilities for comprehensive planning, strategic development and redevelopment included revitalization of Boulevard 26, expansion of Loop 820, future commuter rail station planning and gas well regulations.

Under his leadership, the City of North Richland Hills was presented with the "Certificate of Achievement for Planning Excellence" by the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association. The annual award recognizes "a commitment to professional planning by City Administration, Elected and Appointed Officials and exemplary professional standards demonstrated by the Planning Staff."

Mr. Pitstick is a graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a Master's in Urban Affairs. With a career spanning over 30 years of service, his retirement from North Richland Hills was preceded by his service in key positions with the cities of Hurst, Wylie, Arlington, Lancaster and Irving.

I am honored to represent Mr. Pitstick and the City of North Richland Hills in the U.S. House of Representatives, and I gladly join the City and the appreciative citizens of the 26th Congressional District and across North Texas whom he has dutifully served throughout his career.

RECOGNIZING MR. BILL MISCHKE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Bill Mischke, a dedicated Scouter, mentor to countless youth and one of my first merit badge counselors. As the director for Camp Ockanickon, Bill ensured each Boy Scout troop had a fulfilling experience at the camp fires, the mess hall was well stocked and each counselor was prepared for the rigors the summer would bring. Additionally, he oversaw the implementation of the GE Betz Science Center, the first such

center in the United States which provides an opportunity for scouts to earn STEM based merit badges. After a successful career with the Bucks County Council, Bill has moved on to spend more time with his family but has continued to impact the lives of our future leaders as the Director of Program Experience with the DelMarVa Council. I want to congratulate him on a successful life committed to the tenants of the Scout Oath and Law and wish him happiness in all his future endeavors. I yield back.

HONORING PETRA C. KAATZ

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Petra C. Kaatz, the National President of the Jewish War Veterans Department of Florida Ladies Auxiliary. Her diligence on behalf of our men and women in uniform is a testament to her dedication to our country, and she rightfully deserves our recognition and admiration.

Petra Kaatz started a long and fulfilling career as a member of the Long Island Civil Air Patrol, where she became a flight nurse and ran a stewardess training program for female cadets. At the age of 22, she became the head nurse of a medical surgical unit and later served as PTA President at United Cerebral Palsy of Queens and Children's Rehabilitation Center. She became President of the Queens Hospital Center Community Advisory Board and served as a representative for the United Nations Year of the Disabled. She also established and ran a Cub Scout pack for disabled children at the Henry Viscardi School in Albertson, New York and was editor of the PTA newsletter.

Petra joined the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America Ladies Auxiliary in 1994 and has been an active member ever since. Before becoming National President of the JWVA, she served as Queens County President, Department of New York President, and the chairman of various auxiliary, county, and department JWVA committees. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the national JWVA and life-member of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Representing a district home to veterans of every major conflict since World War II, I know very well the sacrifices that our military families have made for our country. Petra Kaatz's commitment to honor our military and their families should serve as an inspiration for us all, and I have no doubt she will continue to inspire South Floridians to live by her example.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 24, on agreeing to amendment number two to H.R. 185 by Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 240) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chair, when it comes to protecting our homeland, it is incumbent on all of us—Democrats and Republicans—to put politics aside and work together. Yet, the exercise we are going through today risks not funding the Department of Homeland Security.

We know that elements of this bill blocking the President's immigration reforms will not become law. Republican Senators are already expressing their skepticism about this approach. And, the President would veto this bill if it passed Congress with these provisions. So as the clock ticks down on funding for our homeland security agencies, why are we wasting time on this debate?

Sadly, the answer is that the majority party is catering to its extreme wing—anti-immigrant, tea party Republicans who are obsessively focused on blocking the President.

Mr. Chair, let's be clear—the President acted when this House did not. Last Congress, the Senate passed legislation to fix our broken immigration laws. However, this body dawdled, delayed and ultimately did nothing. Finally, the President was forced to move forward alone. He took sensible steps—backed by legal precedent and well within his authority—that will resolve some of the worst flaws in our broken immigration system.

Now, House Republicans are saying that unless they can block the President and punish immigrants, they will jeopardize funding for the Secret Service, for the Coast Guard and the TSA. At a time when the world is reeling from horrific terrorist attacks in Paris, how can my colleagues play politics with funding for these agencies? This is cynical politics at its worst—and we must reject it.

PASTOR DAN Q. CARR

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor Pastor Dan Q. Carr of South Mississippi's Fourth Congressional District, on the occasion of the pastor's 30th anniversary of ministry at Faith Baptist Church of Gulfport.

Born in 1962, Pastor Carr found himself called to preach at a young age. He surrendered to that call on January 17, 1985, and became pastor of Faith Baptist Church on that same day. On Sunday, January 18, 2015, his flock of family and friends will join together to honor Pastor Carr's 30 years of faithful stewardship.

On that fateful day in 1985, Faith Baptist Church began with nine dedicated members